

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-07 SSO-00 ISO-00 /012 R

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DRAFTED BY IO:ROBLAKE:HS

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APPROVED BY IO:ROBLAKE

S/S:WHLUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 253

S/S FOR ATHERTON

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO TEL AVIV USUN NEW YORK
FROM GENEVA 15 JUN 74:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 3830

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ILO, AORG

SUBJ: ILO: PLO REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS

REF: A) STATE 127203; B) STATE 121944; C) GENEVA 3781

SUMMARY

1. LEGALLY, NO PROVISION EXISTS IN ILO CONSTITUTION
OR STANDING ORDERS FOR ADMISSION OF POL AS OBSERVER.
BUT THIS FACT CANNOT NECESSARILY BE EXPECTED DETER
POTENTIAL SUPPORTERS THIS REQUEST FROM RAMMING THROUGH
A PROVISION PERMITTING PLO ATTEND. USDEL APPRECIATES
AND WILL FOLLOW DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE THAT IT URGE
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SELECTION COMMITTEE TO SEEK LEGAL OPINION. MEANWHILE

USDEL IN CONSULTATION WITH SECRETARIAT AND OTHER DELS IS ACTIVELY SEEKING OTHER TACTICAL DEVICES THAT MAY HELP DELAY, DEFER OR KILL THE ISSUE OF ACTING ON DIRECT PLO REQUEST.

IF PLO REQUEST COMES TO FLOOR IN ITS PRESENT FORM, THE ACTION TAKEN BY CONFERENCE MAY VERY WELL BE ILLEGAL AND/OR UNCONSTITUTIONAL -- A SITUATION THAT WE OBVIOUSLY SEEK TO AVOID. USDEL WOULD VOTE AGAINST. IF , HOWEVER, AND THIS IS HIGHLY SPECULATIVE AT THIS POINT IN TIME - - THE ISSUE OF NLM PARTICIPATION IS PRESENTED AS AN AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS ALONG LINES OF WHO/UPU RESOLUTIONS, USDEL ASSUMES IT AUTHORIZED (REF B) ABSTAIN ON ADOPTION.

ADVISE.

2. AT FRIDAY P.M. MEETING, SELECTION COMMITTEE DID NOT RPT NOT TAKE UP OLO LETTER. NEXT SELECTION COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 17 AT 1800 HOURS.

3. USDEL HAS INFORMALLY PUT QUESTION TO ILO LEGAL OFFICE AS TO WHETHER NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT MAY APPLY IN ITS OWN NAME FOR OBSERVER STATUS. RESPONSE WAS THAT OBSERVER STATUS RESERVED FOR NON-MEMBER STATES ONLY. (STANDING ORDERS ART. 2 PARA 3). THUS, ACCORDING TO ILO LEGAL OFFICE, OBSERVER STATUS FOR NLM'S DOES NOT EXIST. OTHER SECTIONS OF ART 2 LISTING THOSE PERSONS WHO MAY "ENTER BODY OF THE HALL" (E.G., REPRESENTATIVES OF NG'S, OR OFFICIAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS) DOES NOT APPLY TO MLM'S. IN ORDER TO COVER APPLICATIONS OF NLM'S IT WOULD BE NECESSARY EITHER TO MODIFY STANDING ORDERS OR TO PASS A RECOMMENDATION -- AS WAS DONE IN 1972 -- LITING THE NLM'S TO BE INVITED AND SPECIFYING THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THEY WOULD PARTICIPATE AT ILO MEETINGS. SINCE NLM'S NOW APPEAR TO BE PERMANENT FIXTURES ON THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL SCENE, IT WOULD, THE ILO LAWYERS SUGGEST, PERHAPS BE MORE DESIRABLE TO MODIFY STANDING ORDERS GENERALLY TO ACCOMMODATE THEIR DESIRE FOR PARTICIPATION WITH APPROPRIATE LIMITATIONS RATHER THAN ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH EACH REQUEST ON AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AD HOC BASIS.

4. THE LEGAL OFFICE FURTHER STATED THAT NORMALLY DIRECT REQUESTS FROM ORGANIZATIONS OR GROUPS TO PARTICIPATE AT ILO GATHERINGS WOULD NOT BE ENTERTAINED BY THE ORGANIZATION. BUT THE REQUEST FROM THE PLO HAS POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS THAT MAY NOT, IN ITS VIEW, BE IGNORED. IT SEEMS ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT THE ARAB-AFRICAN BLOC CAN

MUSTER ENOUGH VOTES TO ADMIT PLO WITHOUT REGARD TO
EXISTING CONSTITUTIONAL OR OTHER LEGAL PROVISIONS.

5. UP UNTIL NOW, THE PLO REQUEST HAS NOT BEEN CIRCULATED.
THUS, THOUGH MANY DELS ARE AWARE OF ITS EXISTENCE AND
GENERAL CONTENTS THE REQUEST HAS NO OFFICIAL STATUS BEFORE
THE CONFERENCE. THE DG CONTINUES TO CONSULT WITH
OFFICERS OF CONFERENCE, BUT IS OBVIOUSLY NOT RUSHING TO
BRING MATTER TO A HEAD. SO FAR, NO DELEGATION HAS RAISED
THE ISSUE IN SELECTION COMMITTEE OR ELSEWHERE BUT THE
THREAT REMAINS. DALE UNQUOTE SISCO

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